THE

VIRGINIA JOURNAL,

AND

ALEXANDRIA ADVERTISER.

HUC UNDIQUE GAZA CONGERITUR VIRG.

(VOL. IV.) THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1787. (No. 202.)

Souchong Tea,

Of the laſt importation, to be ſold by

Porter & Ingraham,

At their ſtore on Fairfax-ſtreet, between King and Prince ſtreets,

Where may be had a general aſſortment of MERCHANDISE, at the cheapeſt rates, by wholeſale or retail, and produce of all kinds received in payment:

A few quarter-caſks of Madera wine,
Geneva by the caſe,
Saltpetre and bar-iron,
Hyſon and bohea teas,
Excellent bottled porter put up in London in caſks of ſix and ſeven dozen each,
6d. and 8d. nails,
Spermaceti candles,
Codfiſh by the quintal,
Pickled ſalmon in ſmall kegs,
Mackerel in barrels, and a variety of other articles.
Alſo, a very good SPINNET for ſale.

Alexandria, Nov. 15, 1787.

☞ To be LET, a very commodious DWELLING-HOUSE, ſituate in a pleaſant part of the town, and now occupied by Mr. WILLIAM WILSON.—Poſſeſſion will be given the beginning of December next.—For terms apply as above.

Lots and Lands for Sale.

A LOT of GROUND, ſituated on Fairfax-ſtreet, adjoining Mr. Leigh's tavern, containing 120 feet in front, which is improved with convenient buildings, extending from Fairfax-ſtreet parallel with Cameron-ſtreet to the channel of the river, having ſix fronts.—A TRACT of LAND, lying within four miles of Alexandria, on Holmes's-Run, containing about 270 acres, 40 of which are excellent meadow land, about 10 are made and the whole may be cleared at a triffling expence. There are on the premiſes a convenient framed houſe, with four rooms and other neceſſary buildings.——Alſo adjoining the above tract, that on which I now live, containing 60 acres, 30 of which are meadow of a ſuperior quality and laid down in timothy and red clover, and 12 acres of it in fallow.—The whole is cleared and divided by poſt and rail fences.—The improvements are a convenient dwelling-houſe, with four rooms, genteelly finiſhed and painted, a framed kitchen, a new barn and ſtabling for 8 horſes and 10 cows.—The ſituation of this place is beautiful and not excelled, if equalled by any in the County, it commands a view of a large body of improved low grounds in front and on each ſide the town of Alexandria, the river and a great extent of the Maryland ſhore, the whole forming an elegant proſpect.—Any part of the above property will be diſpoſed of on moderate terms and very low for ready-money, or exchanged for good lands that are well watered, lying in Frederick or Berkeley Counties.—Inquire of the Subſcriber.

WILLIAM BIRD.

Woodville, Nov. 28, 1787.

GENUINE STOUGHTON'S

BITTERS

To be Sold at the Printing-Office.

William H. Powell and *Company,*

Have juſt received from London and elſewhere, a quantity of GOODS ſuitable to the ſeaſon, which they will diſpoſe of at their ſtore on Fairfax-ſtreet, by wholeſale and retail, for caſh, tobacco, flour, genſang, and good bills on London—The following are a part:

SUPERFINE broadcloths,
Second ditto,
Low priced ditto,
Superfine 7-4 coatings,
Fine ditto,
Yard-wide ditto,
Duffils,
Kendal cottons,
Welſh plains,
Roſe blankets,
Duffil ditto,
Spotted rugs,
Corduroys,
Velverets,
Denims,
Thickſets and beavers,
¾, ⅞ and 4-4 Iriſh linens,
Brown and white Ruſſia ſheetings,
Ditto Iriſh ditto,
German dowlas,
German and Britiſh oſnaburgs,
Superfine cambricks,
Threads,
Wafers,
Sealing-wax,
Writing-paper,
Dutch quills,
10-8 and 12-10 crown glaſs,
White lead ground in oil,
Spaniſh brown ditto,
Boiled linſeed oil in jugs,
Waxed boot legs,
Ben ſoles,
Genuine port wine in bottles,
Beſt London porter,
Freſh hyſon tea,
Bohea ditto,
Loaf ſugar, &c. &c.

Alſo, a few hogſheads of choice Port-au-Prince MOLASSES.

Alexandria, October 18, 1787.

TEN POUNDS REWARD.

RAN away from the Subſcriber on Saturday the 3d inſtant, two Negro fellows, viz. JACOB and BILLY; Jacob is a well made fellow, 6 feet high, 33 years of age, rather inclined to a tawney complexion, accuſtomed to wait in a dining-room, his hair a little longer than Negroes in general have, and has a ſmall ſcar on his forehead; he is a well ſpoken fellow, of a pleaſing countenance, when queſtioned cloſely has a ſtaring look, his eyes large and projecting: He had on and carried with him, a brown broadcloth coat, a gray great coat, one red and one yellow waiſtcoat and breeches, white linen and oſnaburg ſhirts, a good hat, ſhoes, plated and pinchbeck buckles, worſted, thread and blue yarn ſtockings, beſides other clothes I do not remember.—BILLY, a ſhort ſtout made fellow, about 5 feet 5 or 6 inches high, 26 years of age, very bow-legged, large feet, ſpeaks fluently, thick lips, very even white teeth, a pleaſing countenance unleſs ruffled; he has been uſed from his infancy to wait in a dining-room, attend a garden and ſtable: He had on and took with him a black broadcloth coat with yellow cape and cuffs, a brown great coat, a yellow waiſtcoat, blue, nankeen and corduroy breeches, ſhoes, pinchbeck buckles, brown thread and gray yarn ſtockings, white linen and oſnaburg ſhirts, a gold laced hat, beſides ſundry other clothes I cannot at preſent recollect.—They are very ſenſible and crafty, and will endeavour to paſs for freemen, and in all probability change their clothes.—Jacob reads and writes therefore they will not want paſſes.—Both play very well on the violin and each took his violin, which are very good.——I will give THREE POUNDS for each, if taken and ſecured ſo that I may get them again within this State, and pay reaſonable travelling expences, beſides what the law allows; if taken out of this State and ſecured ſo that I may get them again, FIVE POUNDS will be given for each, and reaſonable travelling expences paid, beſides what the law allows.—I forewarn all Captains, Maſters of veſſels and others from harbouring or taking away ſaid ſlaves.

CATESBY JONES.

Northumberland County, Virginia, Nov. 5, 1787.

CASH

Given for clean Linen and Cotton

RAGS,

At the Printing-Office.

Robinſon, Sanderſon and Rumney,

Have juſt received a freſh ſupply of

GOODS,

Per the Hope, Captain Whitfield, from Whitehaven, in addition to their FALL CARGO, per the Wade, Captain Grayſon, viz.

BROWN and white Iriſh ſheetings,
⅞ and 4-4 Iriſh linens,
Printed linens, calicoes and elegant chintz patterns,
A great variety of waiſtcoatings,
Sail canvas from No. 1 to 8,
Queen's-ware aſſorted in crates,
Stone-ware ditto,
Broad and narrow hoes aſſorted in caſks,
Raiſins of the ſun,
Old Jamaica rum,
Liverpool ſtoved ſalt,
Coals and grindſtones.

Alexandria, Nov. 22, 1787.

☞ They have alſo for ſale, FRENCH BRANDY and ANTIGUA RUM.

To be SOLD, by

William Hartſhorne and Company,

On Col. Hooe's Wharf,

ALUM ſalt, muſcovado ſugar, Weſt India and Continental rum, clove and allſpice waters, gunpowder, Port, Liſbon, Fayal and Madera wines by the caſk, bar-iron and caſt, ginger, cordage, porter by the caſk or dozen, and caſtor hats, 12d. nails, Liverpool coal, Irſh beef, a few pieces of neat luſtrings of different colours, beſides a variety of DRY-GOODS, by wholeſale and retail; alſo, bran and ſhorts by the buſhel.

Alexandria, Dec. 6, 1787.

MENS' and WOMENS' ſtout LEATHER SHOES, LADIES neat RUSSEL DITTO, MESS BEEF barrels, SPIRITS of TURPENTINE &c. &c. juſt received by the Sloop Jeſſe, Capt. Davis, from Boſton.

JONATHAN SWIFT and CO.

Alexandria, Dec. 6, 1787.

To be ſold on the 20th inſtant, if fair, otherwiſe, the next fair day, to the higheſt bidder, at the dwelling plantation of the late Col. HENRY PEYTON deceaſed, on Broad-Run, in the County of Prince-William,

ABOUT TWENTY Virginia born SLAVES, with all his PERSONAL ESTATE, and the ſaid PLANTATION, containing 550 acres of land, well adapted for farming, and whereon with other neceſſary improvements, is a valuable water griſt-mill, on a laſting ſtream and in a well ſettled neighbourhood.—Part of this eſtate will be ſold for ready-money, and the reſidue on twelve months credit, giving bond with approved ſecurity to carry intereſt from the date if not punctually paid.——All perſons having demands againſt the ſaid eſtate, or againſt Mr. CUTHBERT BULLETT, as ſecurity for the ſaid decedent, are hereby again requeſted to make them known by the day of ſale, that they may be adjuſted, as a final diſtribution will then be made, by

THE EXECUTORS.

Prince-William County, December 3, 1787.

To be LET,

THAT commodious and well ſituated HOUSE, on Prince-ſtreet, lately occupied by Meſſrs. WILLIAM LOWRY and CO. as a ſtore.—Poſſeſſion will be given immediately.—For particulars apply to

WILLIAMS, CLARKE and CO.

Alexandria, Oct. 31.

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 1.

WE were in hopes that our commiſſaries in their conference with the Duke of Brunſwick, would have obtained an honorable capitulation for this town, as every thing promiſed an happy iſſue; however the deputation of the two members of the Regency ſent to the Hague, to her Royal Highneſs the Princeſs of Orange, has replied, "That ſhe will accept no other ſatisfaction, than the town of Amſterdam, to the four articles of the laſt memorial of the Pruſſian envoy." This is alſo the ultimatum of the Duke of Brunſwick.

The town council have in conſequence aſſembled, and have reſolved to ſend an expreſs to the Hague, to demand of the States of Holland a commiſſion of two members of the Provincial Aſſembly, to meet two members of our town council, for ſettling the means moſt proper to ſatisfy the Princeſs of Orange, and to induce her to relax in ſome part the four articles of ſatisfaction required. At the ſame time they have ſent a courier to the Duke of Brunſwick, to requeſt he will defer attacking the town, until the return of the expreſs from the Hague. Such is the ſtate of things at this moment.

P. S. The advanced poſts of our Town were attacked at three this morning, by the Pruſſians, which continued very briſk until ſeven, when the enemy were repulſed in three places, and retreated in diſorder. We are not yet informed of the loſs on either ſide, and therefore defer till next poſt giving a full account. We are not however, yet out of danger; and all our burgeſſes are under arms.

LONDON, Oct. 1.

Extract of a letter from Cherburg, Sept. 10.

"Yeſterday an expreſs arrived from Paris, with orders to mount the guns on the batteries, as well as to mount the two King's ſhips that have been all the ſummer in the road, and to prepare for war, by obliging the people to work on the ſame."

Nothing carries a greater appearance of war than the orders given by government for putting fire-ſhips into commiſſion, it being very unuſual to equip thoſe veſſels till the laſt moment of a fleet ſailing for actual ſervice.

The 17th, 43d, 44th, and 45th regiments have received orders from the War-Office, to hold themſelves in readineſs for foreign ſervice.

Extract of a letter from Portſmouth, Oct. 4.

"His Majeſty's ſhips fitting out here go on with great rapidity, and begin to get a great number of hands on board, and ſeldom a day paſſes but we have a hundred or two from one place or another."

Juſt as this paper was going to preſs, Lloyd's Evening Poſt ſays, We have received the papers from Holland and Flanders, by which we learn, that the negoſiation between the Duke of Brunſwick and the Amſterdam deputies, having failed of ſucceſs, the out poſts of the city of Amſterdam were on Monday laſt at three o'clock, attacked by the Pruſſian troops; that about five the firing was very briſk, and continued ſo till ſeven, when the Pruſſian troops were repulſed in three different places, and retreated in great diſorder; that their loſs, however, as well as that of the Amſterdamers, was not known.

We are informed, that a few days ago one of our frigates, which was ſtationed off Breſt, to watch the motions of the French, came up with a large tranſport which the Engliſh Captain hailed, but to which the commander of the French ſhip paid no attention; on this the frigate run along ſide of her, and boarded her; the Frenchman immediately threw her papers overboard. On examination, ſhe proved to be one of the fleet that had ſailed from Breſt the day before.

It is confidently ſaid, that M. de Bouille has ſailed for the Weſt-Indies in a ſingle ſhip, to take the command of the French troops.

Oct. 4. On Saturday morning Mr. William Grenville ſet off to Paris with full power to endeavour to accommodate matters with that Court, but not to return without a deciſive anſwer as to their future conduct; he carried in one hand the olive branch, and in the other a rod of iron and the two-edged ſword.

Lord Howe, as Preſident of the Admiralty, has given to the Council an account of ſeventeen ſhips of the line in commiſſion, and ready for ſea; and of thirty-five ſail of the line in the ordinaries with their ſea ſtores on board, and ready for being commiſſioned in 48 hours, of which number eleven are three deckers from ninety to one hundred and ten guns.

A fleet of nineteen ſhips of the line is ordered to be fitted out with the utmoſt expedition, to be compoſed of two from Woolwich, viz. the Orion, the command of which is given to Sir Hyde Parker; and the Coloſſus, two in the Medway, viz. the Scipio and Rippin: The above four are to rendezvous in the Downs. Four from Plymouth are to go to Spithead. Six in Portſmouth harbour, ditto. Five are now at Spithead; they are all to be victualled for four months.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 1.

Extract from Flyn's Cork Chronicle, Dated October 15, 1787.

The KING of SPAIN's DEATH.

A private letter from an Iriſh houſe at Malaga, adviſes, that orders were arrived to hang the cathedrals and collegiate churches throughout every one of the twenty provinces of Spain, with black cloth or baize, where that mourning is to remain for twelve months. The foreign Conſuls have erected a black flag over the arms of their reſpective ſovereigns, which are fixed at their doors, and every thing carries an aſpect of the moſt unfeigned regret for the late King. The mercantile intereſt has peculiar obligations to the departed Prince, who, though not under any legal tie by the conſtitution of Spain, paid every ſhilling of his father's debts, to the amount of twenty millions, by yearly inſtalments from the royal treaſury; an inſtance of benevolence and juſtice capable of covering many faults, and which the Kingdom can never forget. His Majeſty dying at the Palace of Eſcurial, 24 miles from Madrid, had but a ſhort way to his grave, as all the Royal Family have been interred in the chapel which ſtands in one of the courts, ſince the building of that ſumptuous edifice by Philip II. in 1599.

The moſt experienced politicians on the Continent are of opinion, that the death of his late Catholic Majeſty will produce ſome changes in the preſent ſyſtem of affairs. The young King (Charles Prince of Aſturias, born November 11, 1748, married September 4, 1765, to the Princeſs Louiſa of Parma, who was born December 9, 1751, and by her Royal Highneſs he has had ſeven children) has applied with uncommon diligence to the buſineſs of the cabinet theſe four or five years, and in effect governed the Spaniſh Monarchy with a wiſdom not often found in perſons of his age.—He is, beſides, of an enterpriſing ſpirit, and gives broad hints that he will attempt uniting to the Crown every atom of its ancient rights, ſome part of which is poſſeſſed by England. This may account for the report circulated in London, that Jamaica was to be attacked early in the next ſummer—an event, that would find ſome employment for the Britiſh fleet and army.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 5.

A letter received from Halifax, dated November 17, ſays, "We have had great doings here with the Prince, who has ſince ſailed for the Weſt-Indies. We have every reaſon to think he will have occaſion to ſhew his abilities;—there is nothing talked of here but war. A Packet arrived here laſt week; in her came orders, for all the King's ſhips to be ready to ſail at a day's notice."

Captain Henry Williams of Salem, arrived here on Thurſday laſt from St. Euſtatia, having had a paſſage of 18 days; he informs, that it was currently reported there, that Admiral Hood, with 15 ſail of Britiſh ſhips of war, had arrived at Barbados; that the inhabitants of St. Kitt's were in great alarm, and had ſet 500 Negroes at work to fortify Brimſtone-Hill—"That the new Conſtitution lately formed by the General Convention for the government of the United States, had been received at St. Euſtatia, and was read with warm approbation;" and the inhabitants, expecting a revolution in the Dutch government, ſaid they ſhould remove to theſe States, if the good government propoſed by this conſtitution ſhould be eſtabliſhed.

We hear from Halifax, that on the arrival of a Britiſh packet at that port, the 13th ult. from England, an expreſs was immediately ſent off for Canada; it is ſaid ſhe brings advice of the Britiſh nation being on the eve of a war with France. All the ſhips of war have taken down their bulk-heads, and are cleared, manned and appointed, as in the time of actual ſervice. His Royal Highneſs Prince William Henry, in the Pegaſus, immediately put to ſea; his deſtination not known. From the above circumſtances, which corroborate the accounts brought by the Jenny, Captain Smith, from Ireland, who arrived here a few days ago, there no longer remains a doubt, but war, with all its concomitant horrors, is ere this taken place in Europe.

ALEXANDRIA, Dec. 13.

Extract of a Letter from a Gentleman in London to his Correſpondent in this Town, dated Sept. 26, 1787.

"The Preſs is ſo hot here, that among other Veſſels which were ſtripped of Men, was the Nancy, Capt. Clark, from your Port; but her Men have ſince been returned on Board, ſhe being an American Veſſel."

Extract of a Letter from a Gentleman in Richmond to his Friend in this Town, Dec. 4.

"Yeſterday came before a Committee of the whole Houſe the Bill for Payment of Britiſh Debts, when an Amendment was propoſed and carried by 80 againſt 31, that the Law be ſuſpended until Britain complies with the Treaty on her Part."

A Correſpondent wiſhes us to make known his Intentions, ſhould the Bill prohibiting the Importation of ſpirituous Liquors paſs into a Law, viz. That he will furniſh a genteel Hulk, and moor her oppoſite this Town, which ſhall be divided and ſub-divided into comfortable Apartments, for the Reception of Gentlemen and others, who like more or leſs of the good *Things of this Life*; and will alſo have a Boat ready at hail.—He is a Perſon of Property and and propoſes to ſell very cheap, as nothing more than his Determination to gratify his own Appetite, in a moderate Degree, while *he can compaſs the Caſh*, induces him thus to offer his Services, ſhould they be wanting, to his Friends and others, who may depend on the beſt of *Spirituous Liquors*, via Maryland.

Accounts from Conſtantinople as late as the 25th of September, ſay, "That the formal Declaration of War againſt Ruſſia was read at the Porte on the 22d, with full and abſolute Power to the Grand Vizir for conducting the Operations."

The Merchants of Dublin, aided by ſome powerful Noblemen, and Gentlemen of great landed Property, are about eſtabliſhing a Company to trade to America, the Weſt-Indies, and the Coaſt of Africa.

The Aſſembly of Pennſylvania has reſolved, that the Exciſe ſhould be double, that an additional Duty of 2d. per Gallon be laid on Madera Wines, 1d. per Gallon on all other Wines, 1s. per Dozen on Wines imported in Bottles, 1d. per lb. on Bohea Teas imported, 3d. per lb. on all other Teas, and 1d. per lb. on Coffee.

The following Gentlemen from Pennſylvania are choſen Delegates to Congreſs, viz. WILLIAM IRWIN, SAMUEL MEREDITH, JOHN ARMSTRONG, jun. WILLIAM BINGHAM, and JAMES R. REED, Eſquires.

On Saturday laſt departed this Life Mr. JOHN HEPBURN.—His Death was occaſioned by a ſmall Bruiſe on his right Leg, which mortified ſo ſuddenly that he expired before any Aſſiſtance could be given.

☞ The Members belonging to the Company of Light Dragoons, are requeſted to meet at Mr. LEIGH's Tavern, on Saturday Evening the 21ſt Inſtant, on Buſineſs of Importance.

☞ THE Gentlemen of this Town who chooſe to become Subſcribers to the Aſſemblies this Seaſon, which are to commence on Thurſday Evening next, at Mr. Leigh's, are requeſted to call at the Printing-Office, where the Subſcription Paper is left.

☞ THE Brethren of Lodge No. 39, are requeſted to be punctual in their Attendance on Friday Seven-night, being ſtated Lodge Night, as the Officers are then to be choſen for the enſuing Year.

By Order of the Maſter,
WILLIAM H. POWELL, *Secretary.*

Meſſrs. RICHARDS and COMPANY.

Several Gentlemen in this Town requeſt you would in your next publiſh the following Speech, which your Readers may depend is genuine:

DOCTOR FRANKLIN'S LAST SPEECH IN THE LATE FEDERAL CONVENTION.

Mr. PRESIDENT,

I CONFESS that I do not entirely approve of this conſtitution at preſent; but, Sir, I am not ſure I ſhall never approve it: For having lived long I have experienced many inſtances of being obliged by better information or fuller conſideration, to change opinions even on important ſubjects, which I once thought right, but found to be otherwiſe. It is therefore that the older I grow, the more apt I am to doubt my own judgment, and to pay more reſpect to the judgment of others. Moſt men indeed, as well as moſt ſects in religion, think themſelves in poſſeſſion of all truth, and that wherever others differ from them it is ſo far an error. Steele, a proteſtant, in a dedication tells the Pope, that "the only difference between our two churches in "their opinions of the certainty of their doctrines, "is, the Romiſh Church is infallible, and the "Church of England never *in the wrong.*" But though many private perſons think almoſt as highly of their own infallibility as that of their ſect, few expreſs it ſo naturally as a certain French Lady, who in a little diſpute with her ſiſter, ſaid, I don't know how it happens ſiſter, but I meet with nobody but myſelf that is *always* in the right. "*Il n'y a que moi* "*qui a toujours raiſon.*" In theſe ſentiments, Sir, I agree to this conſtitution, with all its faults, if they are ſuch; becauſe I think a general government neceſſary for us, and there is no *form* of government but what may be a bleſſing if well adminiſtered; and I believe farther, that this is likely to be well adminiſtered for a courſe of years, and can only end in deſpotiſm, as other forms have done before it, when the people ſhall become ſo corrupted as to need deſpotic government, being incapable of any other. I doubt too whether any other convention we can obtain, may be able to make a better conſtitution: For when you aſſemble a number of men to have the advantage of their joint wiſdom, you inevitably aſſemble with thoſe men, all their prejudices, their paſſions, their errors of opinion, their local intereſts, and their ſelfiſh views. From ſuch an aſſembly can a perfect production be expected? It therefore aſtoniſhes me, Sir, to find this ſyſtem approaching ſo near to perfection as it does, and I think it will aſtoniſh our enemies who are waiting with confidence to hear that our councils are confounded, like thoſe of the builders of Babel, and that our States are on the point of ſeparation, only to meet hereafter for the purpoſe of cutting each others throats.

Thus I conſent, Sir, to this conſtitution becauſe I expect no better, and becauſe I am not ſure that this is not the beſt. The opinions I have had of its errors I ſacrifice to the public good. I have never whiſpered a ſyllable of them abroad. Within theſe walls they were born, and here they ſhall die. If every one of us in returning to our conſtituents were to report the objections he has had to it, and endeavour to gain partizans in ſupport of them, we might prevent its being generally received, and thereby loſe all the ſalutary effects and great advantages reſulting naturally in our favor among foreign nations, as well as among ourſelves, from our real or apparent unanimity. Much of the ſtrength and efficiency of any government in procuring and ſecuring happineſs to the people depends on opinion, on the general opinion of the goodneſs of that government as well as of the wiſdom and integrity of its Governors.

I hope therefore that for our ſakes as a part of the people, and for the ſake of our poſterity, we ſhall act heartily and unanimouſly in recommending this conſtitution wherever our influence may extend, and turn our future thoughts and endeavours to the means of having it well adminiſtered.

On the whole Sir, I cannot help expreſſing a wiſh that every member of the convention who may ſtill

five objections to it, would with me on this occasion doubt a little of his own infallibility, and to make manifest our *unanimity*, put his name to this instrument.

Then the motion was made for adding the last formula, viz.

Done in convention by the the unanimous consent, &c. which was agreed to and added accordingly.

BOSTON, Nov. 3.

[*Inserted by particular request.*]

Hon. Mr. GERRY's objections to signing the National Constitution.

[The following letter, on the subject of the American Constitution, from the Hon. ELDRIDGE GERRY, Esq; one of the Delegates representing this Commonwealth in the late Federal Convention, to the Legislature, was on Wednesday last read in the Senate and sent down to the House of Representatives, where it was yesterday read and sent up. As it contains opinions on a subject of the first importance to our country at this day, we have obtained a copy of it for insertion—and are happy to have it in our power thus early to communicate it to the public.]

New-York, October 18, 1787.

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE the honor to enclose, pursuant to my commission, the constitution proposed by the federal convention.

To this system I gave my dissent, and shall submit my objections to the honorable Legislature.

It was painful for me, on a subject of such national importance, to differ from the respectable members who signed the constitution: But conceiving, as I did, that the liberties of America were not secured by the system, it was my duty to oppose it.—

My principal objections to the plan, are, that there is no adequate provision for a representation of the people—that they have no security for the right of election—that some of the powers of the legislature are ambiguous, and others indefinite and dangerous—that the Executive is blended with and will have an undue influence over the legislature—that the judicial department will be oppressive—that treaties of the highest importance may be formed by the President with the advice of two-thirds of a quorum of the Senate—and that the system is without the security of a bill of rights. These are objections which are not local, but apply equally to all the States.

As the convention was called for 'the sole and 'express purpose of revising the articles of confe-'deration, and reporting to Congress and the seve-'ral legislatures such alterations and provisions as 'shall render the federal constitution adequate to 'the exigencies of government, and the preservation 'of the union.' I did not conceive that these powers extended to the formation of the plan proposed, but the convention being of a different opinion, I acquiesced in it, being fully convinced that to preserve the union, an efficient government was indispensably necessary; and that it would be difficult to make proper amendments to the articles of confederation.

The constitution proposed has few, if any federal features, but is rather a system of national government; nevertheless, in many respects I think it has great merit, and by proper amendments, may be adapted to the "exigencies of government," and preservation of liberty.

The question on this plan involves others of the highest importance—1st. Whether there shall be a dissolution of the federal government? 2dly. Whether the several State governments shall be so altered as in effect to be dissolved? and 3dly. Whether in lieu of the federal and State governments, the national constitution now proposed shall be substituted without amendment? Never perhaps were a people called on to decide a question of greater magnitude.—Should the citizens of America adopt the plan as it now stands, their liberties may be lost: Or should they reject it altogether, anarchy may ensue. It is evident therefore, that they should not be precipitate in their decisions; that the subject should be well understood, lest they should refuse to support the government, after having hastily accepted it.

If those who are in favor of the constitution, as well as those who are against it, should preserve moderation, their discussions may afford much information and finally direct us to an happy issue.

It may be urged by some, that an implicit confidence should be placed in the convention: But, however respectable the members may be who signed the constitution, it must be admitted, that a free people are the proper guardians of their rights and liberties—that the greatest men may err—and that their errors are, sometimes, of the greatest magnitude.

Others may suppose, that the constitution may be safely adopted, because therein provision is made to amend it: But cannot this object be better attained before a ratification, than after it? And should a free people adopt a form of government, under conviction that it wants amendment?

And some may conceive, that if the plan is not accepted by the people, they will not unite in another; but surely whilst they have the power to amend, they are not under the necessity of rejecting it.

I have been detained here longer than I expected, but shall leave this place in a day or two for Massachusetts, and on my arrival shall submit the reasons (if required by the legislature) on which my objections are grounded.

I shall only add, that as the welfare of the union requires a better constitution than the confederation, I shall think it my duty as a citizen of Massachusetts, to support that which shall be finally adopted, sincerely hoping it will secure the liberty and happiness of America.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen, with the highest respect for the honorable Legislature and yourselves, your most obedient, and very humble servant,

E. GERRY.

To the Hon. SAMUEL ADAMS, Esq;
President of the Senate; and
The Hon. JAMES WARREN, Esq;
Speaker of the House of Representatives of Massachusetts.

PRICES CURRENT, ALEXANDRIA.

TOBACCO, 20s. per Cwt.
Hemp, 44 s. per Ditto.
Muscovado Sugar, 40 s. to 50 s. per Ditto.
Fine Flour, 23 s. per Barrel.
Bur Ditto, 26s. per Ditto.
Common ditto, 24 s. per Ditto,
Shad, 30 s. per Ditto.
Herrings, 15 s. per Ditto.
Wheat, 4/9 per Bushel.
Indian Corn, 3/6 per Ditto.
Oats, 2 s. per Ditto,
Salt, 2/6 per Ditto.
Brandy, 4s. per Gallon.
Jamaica Spirits, 4/6 per Ditto.
Windward Rum, 3/3 per Ditto.
Continental Rum, 2 s. per Ditto.
Molasses, 1/6 per Ditto.
Bar-Iron, £. 22 per Ton.
Hogshead Staves, £. 4 10 per Thousand.
Barrel Ditto, £. 2 5 per Ditto.
Shingles, 14 s. per Ditto.
Spermaceti Candles, by the Box, 3 s. per lb.
Tallow Ditto, 1 s. per Ditto.
Soap, by the Box, 8d. per Ditto.
Tallow, 9d. per Ditto.
Ginsang, 2 s. per Ditto.
Bees-Wax, 1/6 per Ditto.
Exchange, 40.

ASSIZE OF BREAD.

A Loaf made of good Bur-Flour, at 15 s. per Hundred Weight, to weigh 28 Ounces, at 3d. ¾.

☞ Any Bread, under the above Weight and Quality, is ordered to be seized by the Clerk of the Market for the Use of the Poor.

Just received, and to be Sold by

Porter & Ingraham,

A Quantity of excellent Beef in Barrels, Tallow Candles and Chocolate per Box, West-India and Continental Rum per Hogshead, Old Brandy in Ankers, Mens' and Womens' fine and coarse leather Shoes, Train Oil, &c. &c.

Alexandria, Dec. 13, 1787.

William Hartshorne and Company,

Have for sale at their store on Col. Hooe's wharf,

SOAL Leather, Chocolate, Candles, a few kegs of Pickled Salmon, New-England Beef in barrels, Cheese, a quantity of Chalk, Mens' and Womens' Shoes, Childrens' Ditto, Train Oil, &c.

Alexandria, Dec. 13, 1787.

☞ Two convenient small HOUSES to rent.

WHereas there is a dispute between Mr. WILLIAM CURRY and myself in the title of a small tract of land, lying in the County of Berkeley, containing about 100 acres, which I now have in possession, and conceive that I shall have it in my power to establish my claim; and notwithstanding the dispute being known to Mr. Daniel Vanmatre, and the circumstance of my having the property in possession he was no stranger to, he has thought proper to purchase Mr. Curry's right therein; and as, perhaps, he may endeavour to vend it to some person unacquainted with my pretentions, I have taken this method to put the innocent on their guard, as I am unalterably fixed in not giving up my claim.

WILLIAM BURNS.

Dec. 3, 1787.

William Farrell,

BEGS leave to inform the public in general and his friends in particular, that he has removed from George-Town to that commodious house on Water-street, next to the store of Messrs. John Murray and Company, pleasantly situated on the hill opposite to the brewery, and formerly occupied by Mr. Andrew Wales, which he has opened as a HOUSE of ENTERTAINMENT, distinguished by the sign of the SWAN, and wherein he will be happy to board a few gentlemen on the most moderate terms.—He has laid in a stock of the best liquors, and proposes to keep a constant supply of the best country strong beer, and provide OYSTER SUPPERS, during the season, on the shortest notice and lowest terms.——To the house belongs a good stable and lot, where gentlemen may depend on good provender and attendance.——Such as may please to favor him with their custom may depend on the utmost attention.

Alexandria, Dec. 13, 1787.

Public Vendue.

On Saturday next will be sold at the Vendue-Store, opposite Col. Hooe's dwelling-house,

A Variety of Merchandise as usual.

P. MARSTELLER, Vendue-Master.

Alexandria, December 13, 1787.

By virtue of a decree of the High Court of Chancery, will be sold at the Vendue-Store, in the town of Alexandria, on Thursday the 20th instant,

ABOUT £. 400 sterling worth of DRY-GOODS, completely assorted for a retail store, together with WINES of different kinds in bottles.——Also, the one-half of the SLOOP ANCHORSMITH, with all her tackle, apparel and furniture, about 45 tons burthen.

P. MARSTELLER, Vendue-Master.

Alexandria, Dec. 6, 1787.

N. B. No goods will be delivered until the money is paid for them, as the gentleman concerned leaves town on the Saturday following.

For Sale,

At the Subscriber's store,

SEVERAL pipes and quarter-casks of excellent TENERIFF, MALAGA, and LISBON WINES, BEEF, SHAD and MACKEREL in barrels.

He also has several complete STORES to let in the best part of the town, on reasonable terms.

PHILIP MARSTELLER.

Alexandria, Dec. 6, 1787.

NOTICE is hereby given, that all those who have any just demands against the estate of JOHN GOODMAN, deceased, bring in their accounts legally proven, to have them adjusted and settled before the first day of February next, after which limited time none will be accepted or acknowledged; and all those indebted to said estate, are desired to pay off their respective balances before said time, otherwise they will be compelled by law.

COLIN CAMPBELL, }
GEORGE MURREN, } Executors.

Dumfries, Dec. 8, 1787.

I HAVE several thorough bred MARES and COLTS, which I will sell on low terms for cash, country produce, military, Continental or State Loan-Office certificates, indents or final settlements.—I will sell the whole together or singly, and will take in part cattle or good draught horses. The mares are now with foal by Shark.

DANIEL CARROLL BREN

Stafford County, December 8, 1787.

NOTICE is hereby given that there was left at my stable [illegible] by one CHRISTIAN KE[illegible]more, an old BAY MA[illegible] hands high, with a Saddle [illegible]. The owner is requested to pay charges and take her away before the 27th instant, or she will be sold for cost of keeping.

CHRISTIAN SLIMMER.

Alexandria, Dec. 13, 1787.

Advertisement.

THE Sieur GEORGE CHARLES FREDERICK HARTMANN, formerly a subaltern officer in the Brunswick troops, has had a considerable inheritance fallen to him in the dominions of Brunswick, his native country. He must present himself at Brunswick, in order to receive this inheritance, by the 1st of February, 1788, at furthest, otherwise he will be cut off from the same.

The place where the said HARTMANN settled in Virginia is not known; all that can be said with certainty, is, that two years after the Brunswick troops left Virginia, that is to say in 1782, the said Hartmann was settled about three miles from the Potomack, near Knowland's Ferry; that he married a farmer's daughter, who was a weaver, and that he took up the same profession. A Col. CLAPHAM, living in the same district, can give some information respecting the said Hartmann.

FERONCE de ROTENCREUTZ.

Brunswick, 16th May, 17[illegible].

☞ The Printers in the S[illegible] of Virginia are requested to insert this adve[illegible] in their several papers; and those who ma[illegible]inted with the Sieur Hartma[illegible] the pl[illegible]e, would much oblige [illegible] co[illegible] to him the above inform[illegible]

POETRY.

...E CRISIS.

...now, my Countrymen, before our eyes,
...our own option, FAME or RUIN lies.
...OLUMBIANS (if you *now* can claim,
...s boon, to bear so great a name)
...et all that's dear to men inspire
...ts which *once* display'd a gen'rous fire;
... Empire firm, for which you fought—
...y lives and free-spent treasure bought.
...soon, in dark oblivion waste
...s toils, and ills so lately past?
...our country into factions break—
... your necks—the yoke of bondage take?
...ply—We'll join in Freedom's cause,
...r strength, consolidate her laws,
... fix her government, to sway
...all cease, and nature fade away."

...ERLY by advertisement I request-
...those that were indebted to me to come
...eir accounts, but little regard was paid
...-I once more, and for the last time in
...ll upon every one that is indebted to me
...ond, bill, promissary note, open account,
...e to come and pay the same.—Likewise,
...at I owe, or may think I do owe them,
... their accounts that they may be adjusted
... myself in my life-time—for I am deter-
...ave my accounts settled (if possible) and
...y, as I intend once more to cross the
...By this method I mean to prevent ac-
...g trumped up against my estate after I am
...robably would never have appeared had
...he spot, or alive.—For in the course of
... years that I have been in business too
...nts of this description have I seen.—There
... about a thousand pounds first cost of
...OODS, that may be had on good
...o, TWO LOTS, one of them improved
... have lately been fenced in.—Also some
...S that I will either sell or hire.

JOHN MUIR.

...ria, Feb. 1, 1787.

...hereby forewarn all persons from dealing
...f my servants in any manner whatever,
... by my particular orders; as I shall deal
...as the law directs.

...ENTED for the term of ten years
...ncing the 25th day of December

...T valuable FARM on Four-
...Run, known by the name of Colonel
...'s FARM, ... eight Negro tithables
...v on the pr... es.—The improvements
...m are now very considerable, viz. one
...ule, with four rooms that have fire-places,
...or a genteel family, a kitchen, meat-
... stables, cow ... se, dairy, overseer's-
...er's and smith's shops with a good set of
..., an orchard of excellent fruit trees, 250
...ble land cleared and under good fence,
...meadow reclaimed and now in timothy,
...other grass, most of which may be wa-
...sure, being supplied with abund...nce of
...Adjoining said farm is a MERCHANT
...M... which will be rented either for
...m of years, for which ... e worked
... and one pair of country ...-stones,
...&c. &c. —There is now for
...arm fifty ... s of HAY, a part of
... on reaso... terms, for ready-
...—Sixty bushels of wheat will be
...e premises by the 15th instant.——For
...culars and terms apply to WILLIAM
..., in Alexandria, or CHARLES LIT-
...nby, Fairfax County.
...2, 1787.

...ublished and to be sold by

...hua Merryman,

...MERICAN SELECTION of
...s in reading and speaking, calculated
...he Minds and refine the Taste of Youth.
...instruct them in the Geography, Histo-
...ics of the United States. To which is
...es in Elocution, and Directions for ex-
...principal Passions of the Mind. Being
... of a Grammatical institute of the Eng-
...ge. By NOAH WEBSTER, jun. Esq;
...dition greatly enlarged.
...*h the Infant in his Cradle:*
...*st Word he lisps be* WASHINGTON.
Mirabeau.
...ust published by the same Author.
...nd Comprehensive English Grammar.
...rican Spelling-Book.
...ion to the History of America, includ-
...ate War and proposed Form of Govern-
... the late Convention, to which is pre-
...Map of the United States.
...a, N... 5, 1787.

...g of BLANKS, printed on
...at the Pri... g Office.
...are fo... do

Jonathan Swift and *Company*,

Have just received from London, via Baltimore, per the ship Mary, Capt. Bodfield, a further assortment of seasonable GOODS, assorted in small bales,

STOUT blue cloths,
Ditto bay ditto,
3-4. 4-4 and 6-4 coatings,
Fashionable striped and figured ditto,
Swanskins,
Frizes,
Blue kersey naps,
White ditto,
Pennystones,
Hunters plains,
German serges,
Druggets, &c. &c.
Also furniture checks of all colours,
Crankys,
Gray sheetings,
Drogheda ditto,
Bed-bunts,
3-4 and 4-4 linens,
7-8 and 4-4 brown ditto,
British dowlas,
Cotton checks,
Linen ditto,
Check handkerchiefs,
Diapers,
Marseilles quiltings,
Royal ribs,
Denims,
Stockinets,
Satinets,
Ribdelures,
Durants,
Silk crapes,
Boots, shoes, &c. &c.

These goods and those per the Ceres and Potomack Planter, were selected by good judges from the first manufactories in England on the lowest terms.—— They flatter themselves on examination they will be found to be as well laid in as any imported since the peace.

Alexandria, Nov. 1, 1787.

☞ Those persons indebted to them who have met with particular indulgence are requested to make immediate payment, which will enable them to give them considerable advantages in their future dealings.

PROPOSALS

For PRINTING by SUBSCRIPTION,

THE

CONTRAST;

A

COMEDY.

WRITTEN BY MAJOR TYLER.

MR. WIGNELL, who has been favored by Major TYLER, with this opportunity of presenting to the public the first dramatic production of a citizen of the United States, in which the characters and scenes are entirely American, respectfully solicits the patronage and assistance that are necessary to enable him to print and embellish this work, in a form suitable to its intrinsic merit. A performance so interesting to the national feelings, and so honorable to American genius and literature, will naturally recommend itself to general attention, and command in the closet, a confirmation of that applause which it has already received from the stage: The editor, therefore, can only, upon this occasion, evince his respect for the author by the manner of introducing it to the public; and, to render that as perfect as possible, he proposes the following

CONDITIONS:

First, That the Comedy shall be printed in large octavo, with an elegant type, upon superfine paper.

Secondly, That the most interesting scene in the Comedy shall be prefixed in an engraving, executed by an American artist.

Thirdly, That each subscriber, on the delivery of the Comedy, shall pay Half a Dollar, unless he resides at a distance from any town where subscriptions are received, when the money shall be paid at the time of subscribing.

Alexandria, Nov. 15. 1787.

☞ Subscriptions taken in at this Office.

WANTED,

A Journeyman Shoemaker.

Inquire of the Printers.

November 15, 1787.

FOUR DOLLARS REWARD.

RAN away on the night of the 11th inst. an indented Irish servant, named RICHARD M'GUIRE, about 5 feet 8 or 9 inches high, rather slender made and has a considerable stoop when he walks, has dark brown short hair, rather inclined to curl, wants some of his upper fore teeth on the left side of the mouth, with a remarkable hairy mole about the size of a quarter dollar under his chin, is marked with the small-pox, says he was born in Dublin, and is about 18 years of age: He had on when he went away, a round felt hat, an old superfine black cloth coat, a brown and yellow striped lawreen waistcoat, dark drab coloured corduroy breeches of a very broad rib with plated buttons, a white linen shirt, a pair of new country made shoes with large square copper buckles, one pair of dark ribbed worsted and one pair of old white spun silk stockings.——Whoever brings him to the Subscriber in Alexandria, or secures him in any gaol, so as he may be had again, shall receive the above reward.

JOHN SUTTON.

November 20, 1787.

Messieurs PRINTERS,

Without Comment on the Subject, I desire that the within Charge may appear in six of your successive Papers—Word for Word—The Expence of which Publication I will pay you. R. T. HOOE.

Alexandria, Nov. 5, 1787.

The Commonwealth of Virginia.

To the Sheriff of Fairfax County, Greeting:

YOU are hereby commanded, as at another time you were commanded, to take GEORGE MASON, Esq; if he be found within your bailiwick and him safely keep, so that you have his body before the Justices of the County Court of Fairfax, at the Court-House in Alexandria, on the third Monday in next month, to answer HOOE and HARRISON and COMPANY, late owners of the ship General Washington, of a plea of trespass on the case, damage one hundred and fifty pounds; and have then there this writ. Witness Peter Wagener, Clerk of the said Court, the 26th day of August, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three.

Executed, Caleb Earp, D. S.

A copy, P. WAGENER, C. C.

Fairfax County, ss.

GEORGE MASON, Esq; of Gunston-Hall, in the said County, made oath before me, that a certain suit hath been lately brought against him as per copy of the writ hereunto annexed, in Fairfax County Court, by Hooe and Harrison and Company, late owners of the ship General Washington, which he is desirous to remove into the General Court, by writ of certiorari; as he does not expect impartial justice in the said County Court of Fairfax, for the following reasons: Because the said suit is founded upon a claim for freight of goods from Europe, which were not delivered according to the bill of lading, and several of the Justices of the said court being merchants and concerned in vessels, are interested in disputes of a similar nature, and some of them, as the deponent is well informed, are parties to or interested in a suit brought upon the same principles and now depending in the General Court; Because the juries in the said County Court are generally composed of inhabitants of the town of Alexandria, and consequently partly merchants and ship owners, interested as aforementioned, who are endeavouring to introduce and establish new (and in the deponent's judgment) unjust and dangerous customs and principles with respect to freight of goods imported from other countries, which the deponent believes was one of the principal views of the plaintiffs in bringing the said suit against him: And because, about two or three years ago the Justices of the said County Court of Fairfax, the members present being mostly resident in and about the town of Alexandria, laid a levy of about thirty odd thousand pounds of tobacco upon the people, for no certain or avowed purpose whatsoever, which the deponent, when it came to his knowledge, conceiving to be altogether illegal and oppressive, complained loudly of, and talked of lodging an information against the said Justices before the Governor and Council. He afterwards exerted himself to prevent any local or improper application of the said sum of tobacco and to cause it to be placed to the credit of the County at the laying of the next year's levy, whereby any further levy upon the people at that time was prevented, and petitioned the Assembly upon the subject, stating the facts and praying that an act might pass limiting the power of the County Courts in laying levies to a certain reasonable sum of tobacco or money, and disqualifying the members of any Corporation Court from acting as Justices of a County Court, which proceedings, although the deponent had no other motives than to prevent oppression and to discharge his duty as a Magistrate and as a good citizen, have created such prejudices against him among the people in the town of Alexandria, of whom the juries are chiefly composed, and among some of the Justices of the County Court, that he hath good reasons to believe he hath very little chance for common justice in the said County Court of Fairfax. G. MASON.

Sworn this 29th of September, 1783.
before H. ROSS.

A copy. JOHN BROWN, C. G. C.

TAKEN up by the Subscriber living in Fairfax County, Virginia, a bright BAY MARE, about thirteen hands three inches high, with a long tail, about 4 or 5 years old, shod before, paces and trots, appears to be branded on the off shoulder with a small w, a few white hairs on her forehead, and has some white hairs on each side of her back.—She is valued and appraised at seven pounds.—If no owner calls for her, she will be sold according to law.

JOSEPH BENNETT.

Nov. 15, 1787.

THE Vestry of CAMERON PARISH, in the County of Loudon, is desirous of employing a Minister of the Protestant Episcopal Church, provided he is properly ordained, of purity of manners, and capable of instructing youth in academical learning.—A married man will be preferred.—The glebe belonging to the parish is large and valuable, and a moderate subscription may be expected.

November 6, 1787.

ALEXANDRIA: Printed by GEORGE RICHARDS and COMPANY, at their Printing-Office on *Fairfax-street*——by whom *Advertisements, &c.* are thankfully received for this Paper,——and where Printing is performed with Care and Expedition.